

BALANCE

MAY 1994

The Official Publication of the Law Society of the Northern Territory

Darwin clinches 'Mock Trial' title

Cross examinations, witnesses' testimony and objections are over until next year for Territory high school students, with Darwin High School being awarded the 1994 Inter-School Mock Trial Competition.

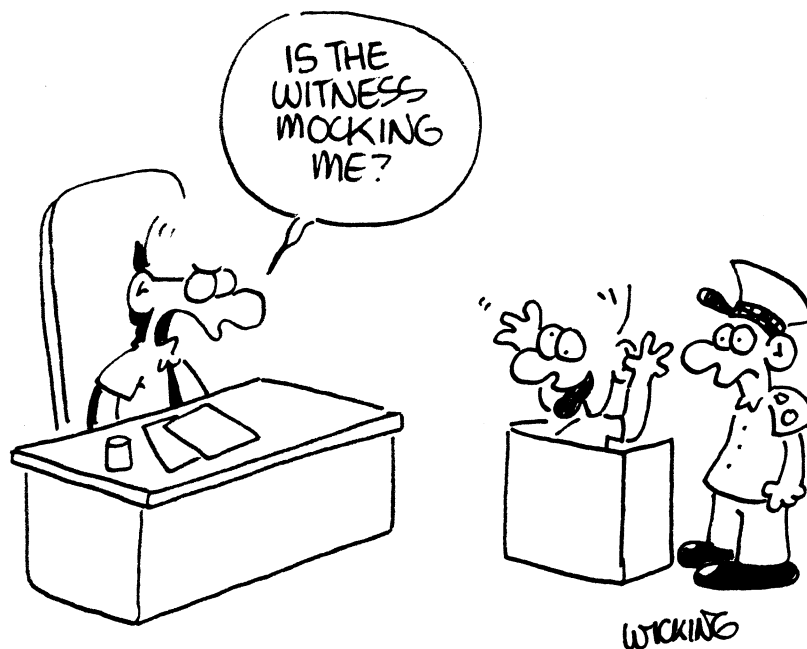
Chief Justice Martin adjudicated the Grand Final at the Supreme Court last week.

Darwin's opponents in the fictitious trial — concerning a contravention of the Dog Act (NT) — were St Philips College, Alice Springs, with St Philips as Prosecution and Darwin High as the Defence. Michael Williams was accused of being the owner of a dog which was not under effective control and in a public place.

The Chief Justice said he was impressed by the efforts of both teams but ultimately decided that the Prosecution had failed to prove the charge beyond a reasonable doubt — thereby awarding the case to the Defence.

Darwin High Team 2 was coached by Ben O'Loughlin (Police Prosecutions) and Therese Austin (Department of Law), while St Philips Team 2 was instructed by Chris Roberts (Director of Public Prosecutions).

This is the fourth time that Darwin High has won the coveted title. Their previous triumphs were in 1990, 1991 and 1993. Other winners have included St Johns College in the inaugural 1989 contest and Sadadeen Secondary College, Alice Springs, in 1992.



Two schools entered the competition for the first time this year — Dripstone High School and Taminmin High School. Along with Casuarina Secondary College, St Johns College (two teams) and Darwin High (three teams), they battled in a series of three knockout rounds before Darwin High's Team 2 emerged as the Darwin finalist.

In Alice Springs, St Philips College (two teams) and Centralian College (two teams) competed in a round robin event, with St Philips Team 2 chosen as the Alice Springs victor based on their total winning points margin over the three rounds.

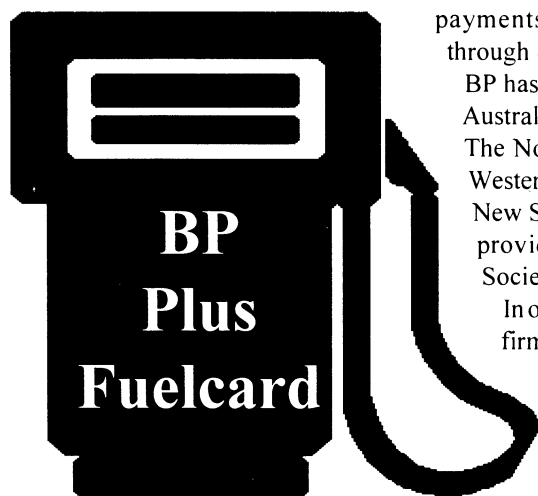
Chief Justice Martin presented the six Grand Finalists from each side with a plaque, book voucher and certificate at a post-final dinner, while the Perpetual Shield was presented to Darwin High at a formal assembly.

This year's competition was sponsored by the Public Purposes Trust, Qantas Australian Airlines, Angus & Robertson - The Bookshop and the Commonwealth Bank.

The Law Society is pleased to acknowledge the assistance of this year's 'Mock Trial' coaches and magistrates — volunteer lawyers from various areas of the profession.

• *Continued Page 3*

Member Services Column



Application forms have arrived from BP Oil for the BP Plus Fuelcard. Practitioners who have already requested one will automatically have the form sent to them. If you have yet to express your interest in the card, The Law Society will accept requests while stocks last.

Card holders will automatically be charged the cheapest price for fuel at the time of purchase.

When you head to your nearest BP as a Law Society member, if you find that site is charging more than the BP Card price, you will only pay the Card price.

On the other hand, if a member refuels at a site where fuel is being heavily discounted — reducing the pump price to below your BP Card price — you will only pay the pump price ... at absolutely no extra cost.

Your BP Card works on a user pays system. There is a small transaction fee each time the Card is used — that's it! There are no surcharges or account fees on your Card.

A monthly statement will be sent to all participating members, with

payments conveniently arranged through direct debit.

BP has the largest fuel network in Australia with more than 1800 sites. The Northern Territory now joins Western Australia, South Australia, New South Wales and Victoria in providing this service to Law Society members.

In other Member Services news, firms are still being encouraged to join the Qantas Australian Airlines arrangement, which is offering substantial savings on both domestic and international

travel for all Law Society members.

Help The Law Society team to make your Law Society more appealing to its members by supporting our special services.



**We want
your
ideas**



What type of goods and services would YOU like to see as part of our Member Services Package? Clothing, accessories, restaurants, books, music, entertainments — you name it. Tell us what would be of interest to you and we'll do our best to get it included. As with all organisations, this package will only be as comprehensive as members want us to make it. Call us on 81 5104 with your suggestions.

Advocacy skills workshop

The Australian Advocacy Institute will hold an advocacy skills workshop at the Supreme Court in Darwin from 5-7 August. The course will be structured to accommodate participants of all levels and will include special emphasis on cross-examination and addresses. For information contact Anne Craig at the Australian Advocacy Institute, GPO Box 1989, Canberra ACT 2601 or phone (06) 249 7600.

Darwin clinches 'Mock Trial' title

• From Page 1

Coaches were Stephen Walsh (Elston & Gilchrist) for Darwin High Team 1; Janet Trier (Department of Public Prosecutions) and Margaret Michaels (Philip & Mitaros) for Darwin High Team 3; Cathy Jeffries (Crowe Hardy) for Dripstone High; Erin Padarin (Philip & Mitaros) and Peter Maley (Police Prosecutions) for Casuarina Secondary College; Janet Terry (Morgan Buckley) for Taminmin High; Duncan McConnel (Cridlands) for St Johns Team 1; Janelle Martin (Department of Law) and Nardin Davidson (Legal Aid Commission) for St Johns Team 2; Michael Prowse (Dittons) for Centralian Team 1; John Royle (Turner & Deane) for Centralian Team 2; and Peter Murphy (Director of Public Prosecutions) for St Philips Team 1.

'Mock Trial' Magistrates included: Preliminary Round — Gordon Kennedy (Cridlands); Rex Wild QC (Department of Public Prosecutions); Robbie Davies (William Forster Chambers); Duncan Maclean (Cridlands); John Stirk (McBride & Stirk); Murray Preston (Turner & Deane). Round 1 — Jon Tippett (James Muirhead Chambers); Trevor Riley QC (William Forster Chambers); Duncan Maclean (Cridlands); Ian Gray CM; Murray Preston (Turner & Deane). Round 2 — Duncan Maclean (Cridlands); Robbie Davies (William Forster Chambers); Roger Bennett (Martin & Partners); Murray Preston (Turner & Deane). Round 3 - Trevor Riley QC (William Forster Chambers); Cathy Deland SM; Roger Bennett (Martin & Partners).

LAW WEEK 1994

Law Week 1994 was a great success. Activities for this year included The Law Society Lawline, the Hot 100 Off-Air Lawline and the Shopfront in Anthony Plaza. In addition almost 50 practitioners attended the Law Week Luncheon to hear guest speaker Rod Burr wax lyrical about modern family life. *Balance* will feature a full report on Law Week next month.